On page 22

--The IPE is pumped into stainless steel trays 2" X 18" X 24". The trays are placed into vented drying ovens at 150° to 175°F (Figure 10). The material is cured for 3 days. The resulting product is an off white crystalloid with a density of ~ 1.1 to 1.2, solubility in distilled water is 6 ppm. Bound water > 50% odor-none, taste-none. The material at this point is referred to as [organic] inorganic polymer crystalloid (IPC). It is allowed to cure in plastic bags at 70°F and 40 to 60% humidity but not limited to this temperature and humidity. This may be accomplished in temperature and humidity controlled curing bens if the material in large quantity for commercial or municipal use as in Figure 11.--

On page 24, delete lines 11 through 17 in their entirety and insert the following amended text:

--Figure 15 represents a more compact ion exchange softener. Water flows through the inflow pipe (12) through bed (23), then (22) and (21). The IPE sequesters 40% of the cations. Therefore, pass through three small columns will remove 94% of the cations therefore outflow (20) will be 94% free of hardness ions. The deionized reserve tank (17) will fill until float valve -

(18) stops the flow. This reserve tank, when full, will begin to leach IPE of the insert [(15)] (15a, 15b) and will be ready for regeneration. When the regeneration cycle begins, valve (29) closes, valve (25) closes, (27) closes, (28) closes and (24) opens.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

[1. An apparatus for generating an inorganic polymer electret in a colloidal state comprising:

(a) a first tube;

(b) a second tube positioned substantially inside the first tube; and

(c) flow through the first tube being substantially counter to flow through the second tube.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising at least one magnet attached to the second tube.]

--3. (Amended) An inorganic polymer [electric] electret in a colloidal state with a particle size is between about 1 and about 200 microns.

4. (Amended) The inorganic polymer [electric] electret in a colloidal state of claim 3 wherein the particle size is between about 1 and about 150 microns.

5. (Amended) The inorganic polymer [electric] electret in a colloidal state of claim 3 wherein the particle size is between about 1 and about 125 microns.